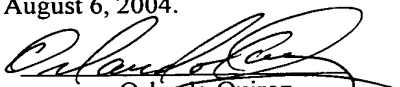


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 6, 2004.

By:


Orlando Quiroz

Date: August 6, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Douglas Dellinger, et al.

Group Unit: 1623

Serial No.: 09/916,369

Examiner: P. Lewis

Title: "Synthesis of Polynucleotides Using Combined Oxidation/
Deprotection Chemistry"

Filed on: July 27, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 10003869-1

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 6th, 2004, which set a three month period for response. Applicants request a one month extension of time to respond, extending the period for response to August 6th, 2004. The fee for this extension and any other fee required at this time may be charged to Deposit Account no. 50-1078. Any overpayment of fees is hereby requested to be reimbursed to this account.

REMARKS begin on page two of this response.